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# Government of Afghanistan Republic from Revolution to Collapse: A Realist Perspective on Political Dominance

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## Abstract

**Aim:** The aim of this study was to explore the collapse of the Republic of Afghanistan's government, and to identify the main factors contributing to its collapse. By analyzing a variety of political and historical factors, the research seeks to find the underlying causes of the collapse of the government.

**Methods:** This research used a qualitative research design, including document and articles analysis. The sources of data included books, academic articles, and reports. The data was analyzed using a realist framework to identify the underlying causes of the collapse of the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan.

**Result:** The collapse of the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan between 1973 and 2021 was mainly due to the lack of inclusive and stable administrations representing national interests; external interference, media propagandas, internal conflicts and economic instability have contributed to the collapse. Lessons learned include the need for political engagement, regional collaboration, economic development and international support to prevent future collapses and promote a sustainable and inclusive model of government in Afghanistan.

**Conclusion:** This study offers recommendations for future governance in Afghanistan, taking into account the complex situation.

**Recommendation:** In order to ensure Afghanistan's future stability and prosperity, it is essential that inclusion, representation and political stability are given priority. This includes actively involving marginalized groups and communities in the decision-making process and supporting an inclusive political environment.

**Keywords:** *Republican government, political instability, domestic conflict, interference, interest*

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## INTRODUCTION

Realism emphasizes the role of power and self-interest in shaping political behavior. It views states as rational actors, prioritizing their interests over others, such as accumulating resources and expanding influence. Realism suggests that states seek to establish and maintain dominance over others to protect their interests. Self-interest is a fundamental principle in realism, as states prioritize their survival and security, manifesting in the pursuit of power to accumulate resources, expand influence, and protect their security in a competitive international arena (Isiksal, 2004).

Comprehensive overview of Afghanistan's three republican governments includes the Revolutionary Republic, the Khalq Republic, and the Islamic Republic. Afghanistan's modern history is marked by political upheaval, communal violence, and the gradual fall of the republican government. The Revolutionary Republic emerged in 1973, instantly following a bloodless coup d'état led by Mohammed Daoud Khan, overthrowing King Zahir Shah and satisfactorily establishing a republican government to modernize Afghanistan and reduce monarchy influence (Mukerjee, 1975). President Daoud Khan comfortably established the Republic Government in 1973 and later in 1978, Khalq Revolution happened by the Communist Party, and to painstakingly restore executive power, the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan in 1979. However, they intentionally left in 1989 (Jamal & Maley, 2023).

Daoud Khan properly implemented social, political, and economic reforms and pursued a policy of proper non-alignment in international relations. The Revolutionary Republic typically ended with the Saur Revolution on April 27, 1978 (Halliday & Tanin, 1998). The Communist People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) eagerly seized executive power, typically leading to an ideological shift from a republican government to a socialist regime. The Khalq Republic promptly began after the Saur Revolution in April 1978, when the PDPA typically established a socialist government in Afghanistan (Dupree, 1979).

The PDPA, divided into two independent factions, Khalq and Parcham, implemented radical leftist policies and social reforms. The political Khalq faction, led by Nur Muhammad Taraki and later Hafizullah Amin (Halliday & Tanin, 1998), eagerly pursued an agrarian reform program and correctly aligned Afghanistan more closely with the Soviet Union. The Khalq Republic resolutely faced internal divisions, political instability, and political resistance from various factions, including tribal leaders and religious groups. The Soviet Union intervened militarily in December 1979 (Hughes, 2008), to enthusiastically support the established PDPA government, sparking the Soviet-Afghan War. The Khalq Republic collapsed in 1992 carefully following the gradual withdrawal of Soviet forces and internal conflicts among the Mujahideen factions. On December 22, 2001, the Taliban regime was overthrown, leading to the declaration of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (Crews & Tarzi, 2008), which aimed for a democratic transitional administration upholding Islamic principles, human rights, and the rule of law. It earnestly sought to rebuild Afghanistan, properly promote dynamic stability, and instantly establish a representative government (Marples, 2016).

The Islamic Republic collapsed in August 2021 because of the Taliban insurgency, Doha contract, corruption and Afghan government reliance on US, causing the fall of the Afghan government. Afghanistan's political landscape has voluntarily undergone significant changes and considerable complexities, with internal conflicts and external interventions shaping its historical trajectory. The Taliban took over from 1992 to 2002, typically causing a civil war. In 2001, the US-led invasion naturally sought necessary stability and lasting peace (Bosin, 2009).

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However, the country has not completely recovered from the previous instability. The Soviet Union was deposed after the 9/11 direct attacks, despite undoubtedly helping to reconstruct Afghanistan. The potential US invasion of Afghanistan in 2001 undoubtedly resulted in the Taliban's ultimate defeat and the official establishment of a democratic government. The Republic's centralized administration faced social, political, and economic challenges. Afghanistan's political and economic power has grown since the collapse of the Taliban in terms of infrastructure improvements, open school enrollment, and democratic elections (Jamal & Maley, 2023).

**REVOLUTIONARY REPUBLIC GOVERNMENT 1973 -1978**

The official establishment of the Republic of Afghanistan in 1973 was the result of a complex combination of political, economic, and social events. The monarchy's inefficiency and corruption caused many Afghans to believe a republic would end the previous era of governance. Leftist and socialist movements emerged in the 1960s and early 1970s, persistently advocating for social and economic equality (Latif et al., 2011).

The National Revolutionary Party properly established the Republic Government in 1965 (Mukerjee, 1975), with western countries supporting it with aim of restricting the influence of Soviet Union. The Soviet Union enthusiastically supported the official establishment as long as it traditionally served Soviet objectives. Afghanistan faced economic issues in the 1970s, including trade imbalances, inflation, and a failing agricultural sector (Hughes, 2008).

The democratic republic would aid in instantly resolving these economic problems and enthusiastically promote exponential economic growth. The Republic Government was established in 1973 because of factors such as the monarchy's lasting effects, the influence of leftist and socialist groups, foreign pressure, and economic hardships. It properly established a more equitable society and significantly altered Afghanistan's political, economic, and social environment. Dawood Khan's republican system in Afghanistan failed due to lack of elections and his alignment with communist elements, a mistake that ultimately undermined democratic principles (Hawar, 2016).

The Republic government typically prioritized reducing the considerable influence of religion in modern politics and impressive building a secular state. A modern constitution was enacted, reliably distinguishing between religion and state, and disbanding the Ministry of Hajj and Religious Affairs. The Republic Government implemented land reform, transferring land from large landowners to small-scale farmers. This program valiantly attempted to progressively reduce long-standing discrepancies in land ownership and promote more essential economic equality (Mukerjee, 1975).

For all local Afghans, to adequately provide complimentary access to education, the Republic Government significantly increased the number of higher education institutions. The reasonable rates of functional literacy and academic success, therefore, demonstrated a considerable improvement. The Republic Government significantly advanced and allowed women's fundamental rights, including voting, compulsory education, and work. They were

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recruited to senior positions in democratic government and other key sectors and funded infrastructure projects like bridge construction and intelligent transportation systems. This typically caused Afghanistan's economic growth and expanded tremendously possible linkages. The official establishment of the government shifted Afghanistan's political, economic, and social environment, but encountered opposition from conservative and religious organizations (Hughes, 2008).

In 1978, the responsible government was overthrown because of its concerted efforts to enthusiastically promote social and economic reforms and secularize the independent state. The Republic of Afghanistan was founded in 1973 but faced several challenges before collapsing in 1978. The Republic Government was marked by political instability, frequent changes of leadership, and growing opposition from conservative and religious organizations (Sidky, 2007). This considerable uncertainty subtly undermined the democratic government and instantly made it more vulnerable to properly direct attacks from its potential adversaries. The Republic Government confronts significant economic challenges, like a growing trade imbalance, skyrocketing inflation, and a failing agricultural sector. These potential problems gently encouraged ideological opposition to the democratic government's standard policies and raised public dissatisfaction with them. Powerful landowners resisted the Republic Government's controversial land reform strategy, which eagerly sought to transfer property from significant landowners to private farmers. The increasing unrest and potential instability in Afghanistan were fueled by successful resistance and contributing factors such as the Soviet Union's military and economic support since 1973 (Westad, 1994).

The Soviet Union's potential invasion in 1979 intentionally caused a decade-long conflict that ultimately contributed to the considerable fall of the Republic Government. In 1978, the democratic Khalq faction overthrew the responsible government, leading to increased hostility and a gradual descent into civil war (Mukerjee, 1975). The Republic Government typically faced political turmoil, economic hardships, and political opposition from powerful interest groups, ultimately leading to its successful overthrow in 1978, which was hastened by the democratic Khalq faction's political coup and Soviet involvement. Sardar Mohammed Daoud Khan, the first noble head of the Republic Government of Afghanistan, was overthrown in a 1978 coup. Socialist and communist movements, and conservative and religious groups, naturally increased their considerable criticism of Khan's presidential administration. Afghans were discontented with the democratic government's affirmative actions, citing corruption and judicial tyranny (Sidky, 2007).

Economic issues, like trade deficits, inflation, and a failing agricultural industry, led to opposition and general dissatisfaction. Daoud Khan's presidential administration was characterized by political irrationality, frequent cabinet changes, and an apparent lack of policy consistency. This historical volatility instantly made it difficult for the democratic government to properly address economic and social issues, resulting in increased discontent. Many Afghan military soldiers eagerly sought the Communist Party as a possible means of achieving precise change because they were dissatisfied with Daoud Khan's effective leadership. Key members of the Afghan Communist Party properly conducted a potential coup in 1978 that was greatly inspired by military leaders. The Soviet Union also played a role in Khan's ultimate downfall. Since 1973, the Soviet Union has supported Afghanistan militarily and economically, constituting merely an inseparable bond with the Afghan Communist Party (Bosin, 2009).

The Soviet Union genuinely believed that the Communist Party represented its considerable interests better than Daoud Khan's presidential administration. The presidential administration inevitably encountered many potential obstacles and considerable hurdles. With numerous

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ethnic and tribal differences, Afghanistan maintains a divided society. While the considerable bulk of the reasonable people resided in rural regions, the PDPA naturally had a strong support base in proper cities. Several elite groups, including tribal organizations and elected representatives of the religious community, adamantly opposed the presidential administration. The administration also had to deal with external pressures and antagonism from nearby nations like Pakistan, Iran, and China (Dupree, 1979). In key addition, the United States generously funded counterrevolutionary troops and fiercely opposed the PDPA Administration (Mukerjee, 1975).

The PDPA Administration was reliably distinguished by its revolutionary goals and attempts to positively affect social change in Afghanistan. However, it encountered fundamental internal and external problems that ultimately contributed to its ultimate demise. Overall, many contributing factors, including growing opposition to Daoud Khan's presidential administration, economic challenges, political turmoil, military upheaval, and geopolitical factors, contributed to his ultimate downfall and a combination of political instability, economic crisis, social and cultural factors. Opposition from Islamic fundamentalists, Soviet intervention, and lack of popular support led to the collapse of the Republic Government of Afghanistan in 1978. The key factors that proved his ultimate downfall gently lead to further unrest and potential violence in Afghanistan in the upcoming years.

## KHALQ REPUBLIC GOVERNMENT 1978-1992

On April 28, 1978, the Afghan Communist Party's Khalq division prepared a potential coup (Dupree, 1979), overthrowing the Republic Government of Afghanistan and gaining power. Nur Mohammad Taraki and Hafizullah Amin led the democratic Khalq faction (Halliday & Tanin, 1998), which was more radical and driven by ideology than the Parcham wing. The Khalq caused a socialist revolution in Afghanistan by promoting atheism, land reform, and establishing a secular state. They focused on modernizing Afghanistan’s economy and society, focusing on industrialization and education. However, their controversial ideals encountered opposition from landowners and religious leaders, who perceived them as a threat to Afghan culture and Islamic values. Resistance and unrest remain key issues that the Khalq group had to deal with while in control. Both the public and other Communist Party factions, such as the Parcham faction, criticized them. The group equally failed to address the country's economic issues, which included a failing agricultural sector, a growing trade deficit, and excessive inflation (Dupree, 1979).

Ultimately, the Khalq faction's radicalism and policies led to their destruction. In 1979, Hafizullah Amin launched a coup to remove the faction, which led Soviet forces to assassinate him (Mukerjee, 1975). The Afghan government was ousted by the Khalq section of the Communist Party in 1978 after a ten-year battle. Hafizullah Amin, Afghanistan's President, faced political repression, factionalism, Soviet intervention, economic struggles, and international isolation, leading to human rights abuses and a prolonged war (Azmatullah & Sultana 2023). Since 1973, various groups have attacked the Republic Government, aiming to represent themselves as a radical alternative (Dupree, 1979). The Soviet Union provided financial and armed support to Afghanistan during the Khalq revolt. However, the movement experienced a brief reign of terror and confronted difficulties in the years that followed. Several Communist Party groups, including the Parcham faction, opposed the Khalq faction. This opposition increased the administration's propensity for turbulence and instability. The Khalq group engaged in two controversial initiatives: the promotion of atheism and land reform. Strong interest groups resisted these measures, adding to the increasing discontent of the general population, including landowners and religious authorities (Halliday & Tanin, 1998).

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The Mujahideen, an Afghan insurgency fighting against the government and Soviet troops, constituted a significant threat to the Khalq faction. They gained general sympathy by defending Afghan culture and religion against the radical policies of the Khalq faction. However, resistance and instability led to their inability to manage the government. Afghanistan faced severe economic difficulties during the Khalq group's rule, including a rapid trade imbalance in the 1970s, inflation, and weak returns (Westad, 1994). The agricultural sector also encountered difficulties, leading to widespread discontent and a decline in the country's agricultural sector. The industrial sector was undeveloped, with mining and agriculture being the unique industries. It was challenging for the nation to diversify its economy and lessen its reliance on agriculture because of limited industrial growth. Afghanistan faced major economic difficulties overall when the Khalq group was in control, which added to the populace's discontent with the administration. The rigid policies of the faction and the resistance that these policies aroused from strong interest groups caused these issues to worsen (Dupree, 1979).

Throughout the decades of violence and instability that followed, Afghanistan's economic difficulties remained a significant issue. The Soviet Union was a critical factor in the revival and demise of the Afghan Republic Government. Sardar Mohammed Daoud Khan, who proclaimed himself president and overthrew the monarchy, caused a bloodless revolution in 1973 that resulted in the establishment of the Republic of Afghanistan (Mukerjee, 1975).

The Soviet Union provided financial and armed support to Afghanistan's recent administration, aiding in infrastructure development and armed force training. The Soviet Union continued supporting Afghanistan post-revolution. The administration did, however, confront several hurdles, including escalating resistance from conservative and religious organizations, economic issues, and political instability. The Communist Party's Khalq group ousted the Republic Government in a coup that took place in 1978 (Dupree, 1979).

The Soviet Union initially supported the Afghan Republic Government, but tensions deteriorated due to the Khalq faction's maximum activities and Soviet interests in Afghanistan. In 1979, the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan to counter the Mujahideen's insurgency, which lasted over ten years. The Soviet Union's collapse in 1991 highlighted its significant role in the Afghan Republic Government's restoration and demise (Marples, 2016). Although it originally supported the government, the Soviet Union's engagement in the nation ultimately caused its fall and launched a protracted war that had a profound impact on Afghanistan and the surrounding area. During its time in office, the Afghan administration of the Khalq Democrats, which was headed by individuals like Noor Mohammad Taraki, Hafizullah Amin, Babrak Karmal, and Dr. Najeebullah Ahmadzai, considered several difficulties. Other groups within the Communist Party, like the Parcham faction, opposed the Khalq faction (Dupree, 1979). Babrak Karmal, Afghan President from 1979-1986, faced opposition, human rights abuses, economic struggles, internal strife, international isolation, and health resignation due to health reasons. His government repressive policies and internal factionalism weakened the ruling party (Azmatullah & Sultana 2023).

These groupings opposed the Khalq faction's extremist policies and were more moderate than it was. The administration became more unrest and instability-prone because of this resistance. Atheism promotion and land reform were two contentious initiatives carried out by the Khalq group. Strong interest groups, like landowners and religious leaders, opposed these reforms, which added to the public's rising unhappiness. The Mujahideen, a group of Afghan insurgents battling the government and Soviet soldiers, presented the Khalq side with substantial opposition. By portraying themselves as protectors of Afghan culture and religion against the

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radical policies of the Khalq group, the Mujahideen were able to obtain the public's support. Significant economic difficulties were encountered by the Khalq Democrats government, including a trade imbalance, rising inflation, and a faltering agriculture industry. These economic difficulties increased resistance to the government's authority and fueled public discontent with it. The Khalq Democrats' administration obtained assistance from the Soviet Union at first, but over time, tensions between the two nations grew (Halliday & Tanin, 1998).

In 1979, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan led to a bloody conflict, ultimately toppling the Communist government. The Afghan administration led by the Khalq Democrats experienced several difficulties while in office, including opposition from other factions, unpopular policies, Mujahideen resistance, economic difficulties, and Soviet invasion (Mukerjee, 1975). These elements ultimately played a role in the fall of the government and set off a protracted era of unrest and violence in Afghanistan. Some Afghan leaders of the Khalq Democrats administration persisted through the fall of the government and the ensuing fighting, while others did not. Taraki, who presided over Afghanistan from 1978 to 1979, remains the founding figure of the Khalq group. Political instability, economic issues, human rights violations, international isolation, and corruption marked Taraki, leading to the overthrow of President Daoud Khan and a civil war (Azmatullah & Sultana 2023). He was toppled in a coup by his own deputy, Hafizullah Amin, and eventually put to death in September 1979 by Amin's loyalists. From September to December 1979, Amin presided over Afghanistan in place of Taraki. Amin, a hardliner, was in charge of carrying out many of the Khalq faction's most extraordinary ideas (Dupree, 1979).

In a coup supported by the Soviet Union, he was ousted and executed in December 1979. Following Amin's fall in 1979, Karmal, a senior member of the Communist Party's Parcham group, was chosen to lead Afghanistan. Compared to the Khalq faction, Karmal was more moderate and aimed to roll back some of its more radical measures. He ruled until 1986 when Dr. Najibullah Ahmadzai captured his place. From 1986 to 1992, Ahmadzai who belonged to the Khalq group presided over Afghanistan (Halliday & Tanin, 1998). He was more moderate and sought diplomatic solutions to the Afghan issue. Mohammad Najibullah Ahmadzai, Afghanistan's President from 1987-1992, faced insurgency, economic struggles, corruption, international isolation, and government collapse due to intensified insurgency, civil war, and Soviet aid reliance (Azmatullah & Sultana 2023).

He sought safety at the United Nations complex in Kabul after his government was overthrown in 1992, staying there until the Taliban took over in 1996. Belatedly, in 1996, the Taliban executed him. Afghanistan's political climate was significantly impacted by the Khalq Democrats' rule. The hardline views of the Khalq faction and criticism from other Communist Party factions helped polarize Afghan politics. (Halliday & Tanin, 1998). Indeed, after the Communist regime was overthrown, this division would remain a crucial aspect of Afghan politics. The Mujahideen a group of Afghan insurgents engaged in conflict with both the government and Soviet soldiers presented a severe challenge to the Khalq Democrats regime. By portraying themselves as protectors of Afghan culture and religion against the rigorous policies of the Khalq group, the Mujahideen could obtain the public's support. The Khalq Democrats' administration initially received assistance from the Soviet Union at first, but over time, tensions between the two nations grew (Azmatullah & Sultana 2023).

In summary, the Soviet Union's intervention and support to the Afghan government played a crucial role in the collapse of the government in 1978. The Soviet presence and policies triggered a decade-long conflict and insurgency, leading to the eventual collapse of the communist regime in 1992. In 1979, the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan to combat the

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Mujahideen insurgency, provoking a devastating war that ended the Communist regime (Dupree, 1979). Afghanistan's Khalq Democrats' government's role in the battle impacted the nation for years, causing instability, bloodshed, and strife. The Afghan administration conducted by the Khalq Democrats had a tremendous influence on the political climate of the nation, causing division, the development of the Mujahideen, the Soviet invasion, and continued violence. For many years to come, the effects of their authority would continue influencing Afghanistan's political development. Overall, a combination of Soviet intervention, resistance from Mujahideen, ethnic and tribal divisions, economic crisis, political instability, and lack of popular support led to the collapse of the Republic Government of Afghanistan in 1978-1992.

**ISLAMIC REPUBLIC GOVERNMENT 2001-2021**

During its 20 years in power, the Republic Government of Afghanistan, which was founded after the Taliban's authority fell in 2001, experienced several difficulties. Political unpredictability, frequent changes in the leadership, and accusations of corruption characterized the Republic Government. This unpredictability weakened the legitimacy of the administration and led to a rise in popular unhappiness with it. The revived Taliban insurgency and the advent of other violent organizations like ISIS were among the major security difficulties the Republic Government was facing. Despite its excellent efforts, the Afghan government was incompetent to fully take control of the nation, especially in the countryside. Significant economic obstacles, including massive unemployment, desperate poverty, and a faltering agricultural sector, beset the Republic Government. Prolonged fighting and unrest worsened problems, preventing government resolution. International assistance from nations and NATO military backing helped the Republic Government (Crews & Tarzi, 2008).

However, resolving the problems confronting the administration and fostering stability did not entirely result from this assistance. The Republic Government, including the conducting of ordinary elections and the adoption of a constitution that upheld democratic ideals, imposed a number of democratic changes into place (Network & Clark, 2022). However, political meddling and corruption sometimes undercut these improvements. Women's rights have advanced somewhat under the Republic Government, especially in metropolitan areas. But many women however had to deal with prejudice and abuse, especially in rural regions. Principally, the Republic Government of Afghanistan experienced persistent difficulties and problems between 2001 and 2021, including political unrest, security issues, economic hardships, and hostilities (Crews & Tarzi, 2008).

The US-led invasion in 2001 led to the formation of a contemporary government, but the Taliban insurgency grew stronger, despite foreign assistance. Corruption, political rivalry, and poor administration undermined the government's authority and discontent. In 2021, US and NATO forces left Afghanistan, removing essential military support. Hamid Karzai, the first leader of the Islamic Republic, played a crucial role in the formation of the modern administration and establishing stability (Network & Clark, 2022). However, he was accused of incapacity to deal with corruption and poor leadership, and relying on ethnic coalitions for during his tenure (Saradi, 2023).

Ashraf Ghani, the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan's president, faced challenges like Taliban insurgency, political wrangling, and corruption accusations (Jamal & Maley, 2023). Despite improving security forces, the government struggled to govern rural areas, and its hold was weakened by political instability, leadership changes, and corruption allegations. This unpredictability undermined the credibility of the administration and fueled a rise in popular

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discontent. Along with poor leadership, the government had trouble providing the people with even the most key services. The administration was confronted with considerable economic difficulties, such as rising unemployment, poverty, and a failing agricultural industry. Prolonged fighting and unrest worsened issues, leading to the government's failure to resolve corruption and embezzlement, with officials facing embezzlement charges. Cronyism was equally prevalent, with important government jobs frequently going to political allies rather than people who met the requirements. Regional and influential governments, notably the United States and other major world powers, interfered with the administration (Saradi, 2023).

The meddling frequently made it more difficult to promote stability and handle the nation's problems. The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan's failure between 2004 and 2021 was attributed to factors like conflict, security issues, political unrest, economic difficulties, corruption, and regional interference. Despite significant strides in democratization and women's rights, these challenges overshadowed the government's efforts, ultimately failing to provide long-term stability to the nation. The Islamic Republic government of Afghanistan fell in 2021 due to several factors, including the Taliban resurgence, the withdrawal of international forces, and weaknesses in Afghan security forces (Network & Clark, 2022).

The Taliban intensified its armed campaign, capturing provincial capitals and gaining territorial control. Afghan security forces struggled to thwart Taliban advances due to the withdrawal of foreign troops, corruption, low morale, and limited equipment. Elite infighting and political squabbles further strained their ability to battle the Taliban as a unique force. The collapse of regional support further undermined the government's position. Public disillusionment and lack of trust in the government stemmed from issues like corruption, poor governance, and inadequate service delivery (Jamal & Maley, 2023). Taliban propaganda and recruitment efforts capitalized on grievances, religious rhetoric, and promises of justice and stability, gaining support from segments of the population. Negotiation and peace process challenges between the Afghan government and the Taliban faced significant setbacks, such as disagreements over power sharing, the release of prisoners, and the inclusion of diverse stakeholders (Network et al., 2022).

The international community's shifting priorities, coupled with fatigue from the long-standing conflict, led to reduced attention and support for the Afghan government, weakened the government's position, and limited its ability to seek assistance in confronting the Taliban's a dvances. These factors combined with other contextual factors contributed to the fall of the Islamic Republic government of Afghanistan in 2021. The fall of the Republic government in Afghanistan from 1973 to 2021 can be attributed to a combination of political, social, and security factors. Political instability and coups led to the establishment of a republic, but power battles and frequent leadership changes further weakened the republican government's authority and legitimacy. The Soviet Union's invasion in 1979 and the Mujahideen resistance led to extensive destruction, fatalities, and population displacement, weakening the republican administration and increasing civil dissatisfaction (Sidky, 2007).

The Taliban's rise in the 1990s worsened the situation, as they took over significant parts of Afghanistan, ultimately taking Kabul in 1996. The Taliban's Islamic Emirate idea coincided with the fall of the republic government. US military intervention and transitional governments began military involvement in Afghanistan, leading to the overthrow of the Taliban government in 2001 and the establishment of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in 2004 (Shankar, 2004).

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The US withdrawal from Afghanistan was attributed to the failure of the previous Afghan government to understand and manage the war against the Islamic Emirate. The absence of direct talks between the US and the Islamic Emirate weakened the previous system, and the Afghan government's efforts to overthrow the Islamic Emirate and merge it into the Republic were also cited as reasons. The centralization of the system, administrative corruption, and struggle for long-term legitimacy were also identified as the final reasons for the fall of the republic. In summary, the collapse of the Afghan government in 2021 was influenced by a combination of internal and external factors. The withdrawal of US forces, the Taliban insurgency, Pakistan's support for the Taliban, media propagandas, and regional dynamics all contributed to the collapse of the government. Corruption and governance issues within the Afghan government also played a role. (SIGAR. 2023).

Hamid Karzai, Afghan President from 2004-2014, faced challenges like Taliban resurgence, corruption, ethnic tensions, weak institutions, inadequate service delivery, and political instability. The Taliban's violent campaign, corruption, ethnic tensions, and political instability weakened the government's legitimacy. Ashraf Ghani, Afghanistan's President from 2014-2021, faced numerous challenges such as the Taliban insurgency, political instability, corruption, media propaganda, economic issues, ethnic and regional tensions, peace negotiations, and human rights issues. The Taliban's territorial gains, power struggles, corruption, and economic issues exacerbated the country's problems (Malik & Achakzai, 2023).

However, issues like factionalism, corruption, and persistent insurgency continued despite efforts to construct a stable democracy. Insurgency and security challenges continued, with the Taliban exploiting grievances, ethnic tensions, and poor administration to gather support and undermine the legitimacy of the republic government. The security situation deteriorated in many areas due to the security forces in Afghanistan struggling to quell the insurgency and preserve stability. Weak governance and corruption further jeopardized the public's faith in the government, jeopardizing service delivery and hampering the creation of efficient institutions. The Afghan populace became disillusioned due to the absence of competent administration, the rule of law, and accountability, further jeopardizing the stability and credibility of the republic government. The complex confluence of causes caused the fall of the republic government in 2021, with the Taliban resuming power. The fall of the republic government was attributed to Western withdrawal, Taliban military successes, and Afghan security forces' inability to repel attacks. Afghanistan's political environment, with a history of instability, violence, and governance issues, made it challenging for consistent republican rule. Overall, a combination of factors, including the Taliban insurgency, insufficient security forces, corruption and governance issues, international intervention and withdrawal, sectarian and ethnic divisions, external support for the Taliban, and a weak economy, led to the collapse of the Republic Government of Afghanistan in 2001-2021.

## CONCLUSION

The Afghan Republic Government, Khalq Democrats, and the ongoing political instability in the nation have taught us valuable lessons about inclusion, stability, and national interests. Throughout the Republican era in Afghanistan, successive rulers have consistently prioritized the preservation of their own authority, neglecting to establish a structured and seamless power transition process. Consequently, each president, ranging from Daud Khan to Ashraf Ghani, has failed to undertake substantial measures to facilitate the electoral process, ensure the smooth transfer of power, and safeguard the longevity of the republican system. The Republic Government confronted difficulties due to lack of participation and representation, particularly

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for marginalized groups like rural and tribal people. Subsequent governments must prioritize inclusion and representation to foster confidence and legitimacy among all facets of the populace.

Political instability and frequent cabinet changes led to rising dissatisfaction and challenges in responding to the nation's economic and social problems. To create efficient governance institutions and comply with long-term requirements, upcoming administrations must prioritize political stability and continuity. Economic issues, such as trade imbalances, rising inflation, and a faltering agricultural industry, fueled public unhappiness and resistance to the Revolutionary Republic and Khalq Democrats' governments. The future governments must prioritize addressing Afghanistan's economic problems to improve contemporary standards and generate a comprehensive national strategy. This plan should support foreign interests and national interests, based on a thorough study of Afghanistan's history, geography, culture, and political environment. To forge genuine bonds and advance Afghan interests, future governments must pursue vigorous diplomatic contacts with other nations and international organizations. Building ties with nearby nations, regional powers, and international players remains a priority.

Economic growth is crucial for promoting national interests and minimizing reliance on foreign aid. To preserve Afghanistan's independence and national sovereignty, upcoming administrations must exercise caution by securing resources and territorial integrity and maintaining a powerful military and security system. Additionally, they must encourage regional collaboration to advance regional stability and approach standard issues. In conclusion, Afghanistan's later administrations will likely confront persistent difficulties in carefully balancing foreign interests while prioritizing national interests. By generating a clear national strategy, engaging in robust diplomatic relations, prioritizing economic development, protecting national sovereignty, and encouraging regional cooperation, future governments can work towards advancing Afghan interests while interacting with the international community.

Afghanistan's collapse as a nation from 1973 until 2021. It asserts that the administrations set up during this time, including the first republic under Mohammad Daoud Khan, were self-imposed and did not include the Afghan people in political decision-making, elections and other chances for the populace to participate in the creation of their government were nonexistent. Due to a lack of political engagement and representation, the country follows nearly four decades of civil conflict as a result of misguided theological interpretations, racial prejudice, and poor literacy rates. Regional and international meddling influenced the transparent and unstable administrations that developed during this time, contributing to corruption, the emergence of terrorism, and economic catastrophes. The several administrations and governments that were founded during this period, including the Taliban, the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the Mujahidin, and communist regimes. Afghanistan's collapse as a nation from 1973 until 2021.

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the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the Mujahidin, and communist regimes. It emphasizes how dependent these governments were on foreign help and how none of them were financially self-sufficient. The study argues that the lack of an effective and stable administration that correctly represented Afghanistan's national interests without consideration for ethnic, linguistic, or foreign agendas was the primary cause of the collapse of the Republic of Afghanistan from 1973 to 2021. The fall of the Republic Government in Afghanistan has had a huge impact on how the nation would be governed going forward, leading to instability, poverty, and bloodshed.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Prioritization of inclusion and representation: ensuring inclusion and representation, especially for marginalized groups. Establish mechanisms for their participation in the decision-making process.
2. Foster political stability and continuity: Give priority to stability and continuity. Minimize frequent changes to the cabinet and create a conducive environment for long-term governance.
3. Addressing economic challenges: Developing a comprehensive national strategy for addressing economic problems. Research history, geography, culture and politics to inform economic policy.
4. Strengthen diplomatic relations: Establish strong diplomatic relations with countries and international organizations'. In order to establish stable and supportive relations with neighboring countries and international players.
5. Promote economic growth and self-sufficiency: give priority to economic development to reduce dependence on foreign aid. The implementation of policies for growth, employment and support to local industries.
6. The safeguard of national sovereignty: the protection of independence, resources and territorial integrity. Maintain a strong army and address regional issues for stability.
7. Improve governance and accountability: Establish transparent and accountable governance institutions. It provides essential services and infrastructure, education, health care, etc.

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